

Certified true copy.

(Sgd.) ? , Major.

Evidentiary Document # 5068.

not used

IN THE MATTER OF JAPANESE WAR CRIMES AND IN THE
MATTER OF CONDITIONS AT NAKON NYOK CAMP, SLAM.

A F F I D A V I T.

[I, St. Clair Edward John Barrett, Lieutenant-Colonel, Royal Army Medical Corps (P/74454), with home address at 4 Crescent Gardens, Belfast, Northern Ireland, make oath and say as follows:-

1. I was captured at SINGAPORE on 15 February, 1942, and was on the staff of Roberts Hospital, CHANGI, until November of that year, during which time I was in charge of the Dysentery wing. In November I was moved to PAN PONG, where I remained until January, 1943, when I was sent to KAMBURI Base Hospital. I was moved again in May and from then until January, 1944, I was senior medical officer of CHUNGKAI Hospital Camp, which contained about eight thousand inmates. I was then told that I was to be moved to NAKON PATON Base Hospital, but on the way there I was sent to KAMBURI Air Field Camp, and it was not until June, 1944, that I reached NAKON PATON. I remained here until September when I went to TAMUAI, where I remained until March, 1945. In that month I was moved to NAKON NYOK and I remained there until its liberation in August, 1945.

2. When I arrived at NAKON NYOK there were only two huts and the rest of the camp had to be constructed by the prisoners. A party of four hundred had arrived after a march of forty kilometres from the rail head and there was a lot of foot trouble among them. The guards on the journey had been Japanese, who were a pleasant change from the Koreans.

3. I have the following remarks to make about members of the camp staff at NAKON NYOK:-

(a) The Camp Commandant for the whole period was Lt. NAGUCHI, nicknamed "Bluebeard".

As far as I was concerned I would describe him as a "Fair Nip" because as far as the hospital was concerned he did not behave too badly. The main complaint that I have against him is that he was chiefly concerned with showing a good report of the work done by his camp to his superior officers. With this in view he insisted on prisoners going to work when I did not consider fit. These prisoners received no pay and I have no doubt that there was a bad "racket" over their pay.

(b) Lt. KOKABU was the Commandant's second in command. He was completely uncontrollable, a very heavy drinker and consistently beat prisoners up.

(c) The works Gunso, who was nicknamed "Baldy", I did not know this man's proper name, beat prisoners on the slightest provocation including the sick. He was on the six hundred kilometres march to which I make reference in paragraph 5(c) of this affidavit, and I understand although I was not on that march, that he was

one of the principal perpetrators of the various beatings up of the prisoners, including the medical staff, which took place.

- (d) The transport Gunso. Again I do not know his name, but he was responsible for a great many of the beatings up which took place in this camp. On one occasion he gave me a bad beating up with his fists.

4. The hospital accommodation was appalling. During the time I was there I was made to move my hospital at least six times. It was almost impossible to get separate latrines for the dysentery cases. There was a grave shortage of all drugs, although after the surrender of Japan the Japanese produced ample supplies which indicated to me that they could have produced them before the surrender had they been willing to do so. On one occasion we heard that a ship had arrived with Red Cross medical supplies from the United States. These were distributed among the various camps but this was done so badly that my camp received twelve transfusion sets and nothing. I asked the Japanese to exchange eleven of these for other supplies but nothing was ever done about it.

5. I would like to report in particular the following instances of cruelty and negligence:-

- (a) Near the men's camp at NAKON NYOK, which was the one at which I was senior British medical officer, a camp was established in the summer of 1945 for officers. One night we received a message that an officer was seriously ill, and after a good deal of delay we persuaded the Japanese to send my Dutch surgeon to see what was the matter as there was no surgeon at the officers' camp. He found that the officer was suffering from an intestinal obstruction but as there was no proper light by which to operate and as he wished to get further supplies and instruments he asked if he might return to the men's camp and go back again for the operation in the morning. When the morning came we asked for leave for him to go and perform the operation, but this was refused as the Japanese said that if the officers wanted a surgeon they would send for one and it was not until forty-eight hours later that he was allowed to go back to the officers' camp. He found that the condition of the sick officer had deteriorated so much that he was only able to perform a palliative operation under a local anaesthetic and the patient died. In my opinion and in the opinion of the surgeon the life of this officer could have been saved if he had been allowed to go and operate when he wished to do so. The S.P.O. at the officers' camp will have full particulars of this incident.
- (b) An Australian padre, rather foolishly, held an ANZAC Day service and preached a sermon about fighting against the powers of evil. The Japanese considered that this was directed against them and segregated the padre for a period of three months during which time he was put into a hut which he was not allowed to leave except to go to the latrines. The Japanese did not actually beat him but they threw things at him.

- (c) In January, 1945, a party of eight hundred British and Imperial prisoners of war, under W.O.L. Brown, R.A.M.C., was marched from Nakon Nyck on a six hundred kilometres march. From this march fifty-four sick men were returned to Nakon Nyck suffering from every sort of complaint including Typhus and Black Water Fever. Every single man was admitted to hospital and the first discharge made by me was eight weeks later. I am glad to say that no one died. During the march I used to send up half my drug supplies to the medical officers in charge but I now know that none was received by them. Apart from W.O. Brown the best witness to this incident will be Captain C.J. Poh S.S.V.F., a Chinese doctor who is now living at Kinghorn, Fife.
- (d) At one time at Nakon Nyck there were one hundred and twenty Americans in the camp. One day while they were out working three were seen by the Japanese stealing from a Japanese dump. Two were caught but the third could not be found. The Japanese picked out nineteen of these Americans and KOKABU beat each one up himself with bamboos and his sword in its scabbard. They then put a piece of wood round the neck of each of them with the word "Thief" in Japanese and in English written on it and they had to wear these collars for a month. This was a very severe beating and I had to doctor them afterwards although none of them, luckily, was permanently injured.

SWORN by the above-named St. Clair)
Edward John Barrett, at 6 Spring)
gardens, in the city of Westminster,)
this thirteenth day of December, 1945.) (Signed) ST. CLAIR E.J. BARRETT.

Before me

(Signed) F.G. FLETCHER.
Captain Legal Staff.
Mil Dept. Office of the Judge Advocate General.

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No 1

私即々英國陸軍軍醫西部(P/74454)セント・クレア・エドワーズ・ジョン・バレット中佐、住所北部アイルランド・ベルファスト・クレセント・ガーデン・四番地・ハ・宣望ノ上・次ノ稿ニ陳述シマス

一私ハ一九四二年ノ昭和十七年ノ二月十五日シニガホルニテ捕虜カトナリマシタ。

× × × × ×

私ハタムアンニ行キソコニ一九四五年ノ昭和二十年ノ三月迄居リマシタ。ソノ月私ハナコンニオクニ移サレ一九四五年ノ昭和二十年ノ八月ソノ解放ニ至ルマデソコニ居リマシタ。

二私ガナコンニオクニ着イタ時ニハタツタニ棟ノ小舎ガアワタタケデ他ノ宿舎ヲ俘虜達ガ建テケレバナリマセンデシタ。四百人ヨリ成ル一隊ハ鉄道敷設軌道ノ最先端ノ地点ヨリ更ニ四十軒行進シテヤット通り着イタノデスが彼等ノ中ニハ足ヲ痛メタ者ガ多ク勢ガ居マシタ。

× × × × ×

四病院ノ設備ニハゾツトシマシタ。ソコニ私ガ居ル間ニ少クモ六回私ハ病院ヲ移サレマシタ。吾等ノ場合デモ隔離サレタ便所ヲ使用スルコトハ不可能デシタ。酷イ藥品不足デアリマシタガ日本降伏後日本人ハ澤山ノ藥品ヲ給與シタノデ降伏前デモ給與シヨウトタルコトガ出来タノダトイフコトがワカリマシタ。アル時私達ハ重十字ノ醫療品ヲ積ンタ船ガ金盃國カラ到着シタトイフコトヲ聞キマシタ。コレハ方々ノ宿舎ニ分配サレマシタガ方法ガ非常ニ下キダッタメ、私ノ宿舎ハ多ク二組ノ輸血器具ノ外ハ何事モマセンデシタ。私ハ日本人ニ土組ノ輸血器具ト他ノ給與品トヲ取換ヘテ貴ヒタイト頼ミマシタガコレイデハワイバ何ノ方答モ講シラレマセンデシタ。

五私ハ特ニ次ノ残忍行爲ト怠慢ノ例ヲ報告致シ度イと思ヒマス。

(1) 私が 英國上席軍醫將校トナラ居タノナコンニオクノ

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幸ヒト誰モ死ニセシム。行進中常ニ私ハ自今、医薬品
ハ半合ヲ掛リ、軍医士會連ニ送ツタ、テシタガ今誰モソシ受
取ツテサナコトガロカリシム。テシタハ准士官、外ニ此、事件ヲ
最モ良ク知ツテキル證人ハ海峡植民地を礦兵部隊ニシテ
一木ハ大尉ヲ同人ハ現在ニテシタ、テシタハ住ニテキル中国、
医師テアリヌ。

(三) ナコニニテシタハ一時 百二十人、アメリカ人が宿舎ニ居リシム。
アル日彼等が外テ働ミテ居リシ時ニ、中三人が日本軍需
品集積場カラ盗ミテスル所ヲ日本人ニ見ツタシム。

二人ハ捕メシムが三人目ハ逃ガリセシム。日本人ハコニサ
アメリカ人ハ中十九人ヲ選ビ出シ「カカ」音綴ハ身作様ヲ
頼ニ入ツタカテ一人一人ヲ撲リ上ケシム。

ソレカラ日本人等ハ一人連、二人又、着ニ日本語ト英語ヲ「通人」
ト書キテ本片ヲ着ケシム。ソレテ彼等ハ此、謀ラ一月着ケ
テサナタ「バナ」セシム。

コトハ實ニヒシハ撲リテ幸ヒ誰モ不治、傷ニハサナタカタハ
三ハ、ソレ後テ私ハ治療ニサナタ「バナ」セシム。